WHEREAS, The founding fathers of our Nation, in drafting our Constitution, provided that "The Congress shall have power . . . To Promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries"; and,

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States responded by establishing a patent system under which American inventors have, over the years, made outstanding contributions to the world's engineering, manufacturing, and scientific endeavors; and,

WHEREAS, Both the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States Congress have now passed, and the President of the United States has now signed, a resolution officially designating the birthday of Thomas Edison, February 11th, as National Inventors' Day:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of February 11, 1975, as

SOUTH DAKOTA INVENTORS' WEEK

in commemoration of the useful arts within the United States and to those contributions made by all inventors. Let it be known in this way, that the State of South Dakota expresses thanks to its inventor-citizens for their contributions to the economy and welfare of this State and our nation. Let it further be known that the State of South Dakota pays tribute to the United States Patent System, recalling the words of Abraham Lincoln: "The Patent System adds the fuel of interest to the fire of genius."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this 10th day of February, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Five.

Richard F. Kneip

RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Lorna B. Herseth

LORNA B. HERSETH, SECRETARY OF STATE